



EXHIBIT 2  
DATE 2/2/07  
HB 340

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION  
555 CAPITOL MALL, SUITE 625  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814  
(916)446-2455 voice ■ (916)448-7469 fax

STATE & LOCAL AFFAIRS DIVISION  
BRIAN JUDY, MONTANA STATE LIAISON

TO: Members of the House Judiciary Committee  
FROM: Brian Judy, NRA-ILA Montana State Liaison  
DATE: January 31, 2007  
RE: House Bill 340 (Self-defense/Right to Keep & Bear Arms) - **SUPPORT**

---

On behalf of the more than 27,000 National Rifle Association members who live in the State of Montana, I would like to register support for House Bill 340. Self-defense is a fundamental right. Law-abiding citizens should be able to defend themselves and their loved ones and not be treated like criminals.

House Bill 340 is a broad piece of legislation that provides a number of specific protections for law-abiding citizens. The provisions of HB 340 protect the right of self-defense by safeguarding victims across the whole legal continuum of an incident in which self defense is appropriate, warranted and necessary, from before anything happens to the resolution of a criminal trial. In summary, House Bill 340 does the following:

- 1) Clarifies the ability of law-abiding citizens to carry a firearm in plain view and to display the firearm for defensive purposes;
- 2) Allows a person who can lawfully possess a firearm and who doesn't use it to commit a criminal offense to carry it concealed anywhere in the state without first obtaining governmental permission;
- 3) Prevents landlords and hotels from restricting law-abiding citizens' self-defense rights and requires employers who do restrict such rights to provide a comparable level of security and safety;
- 4) Codifies the existing legal precedent that there is no duty to retreat from a threat before exercising the right to self-defense and allows a law-abiding citizen to use reasonable force in exercising the existing law that gives a private person the authority to arrest an offender;
- 5) Protects law-abiding citizens against seizure of their firearms absent an arrest and ensures return of seized property if a person is exonerated;
- 6) Requires that self-defense claims be considered during incident investigations; and
- 7) Provides reasonable attorney fees to a person who is accused of an offense and who is found to have acted in self-defense.

Tip the scales of justice in favor of law-abiding citizens and send a strong message to criminals that they risk everything by engaging in unlawful activity. Support House Bill 340.